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ORIGIN CU-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 USIA-06 /019 R

DRAFTED BY CU/OPP:JALDEN:BAM

APPROVED BY CU/NEA:DONEWBERRY, DIRECTOR

CU/NEA:CANYASO

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TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 059183

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: USEGJC

SUBJECT: AIN SHAMS ENGLISH TEACHING PROJECT

REF: CAIRO 2374; STATE 38924

JANE ALDEN HAS TALKED WITH RUSS CAMPBELL ABOUT ENGLISH TEACHING PROJECT AND WE SHOULD GET A RESPONSE BY END OF WEEK. JANE ENCOURAGED TO LEARN EGYPTIANS AWARE HELMY'S LIMITATIONS. WE UNSURE WHAT IS MEANT BY "SEMI-AUTONOMOUS" CENTER CONCEPT, BUT IT SUGGESTS TO US THE ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES OUTLINED BELOW:

1. CREATE AN "ENGLISH TEACHER TRAINING CENTER" AT AS BY COMBINING PRESENT ENGLISH DEPARTMENT AND RELATED COURSES GIVEN IN CURRICULUM AND METHODOLOGY DEPARTMENT INTO A COMPLETELY NEW MODERN CURRICULUM IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND APPLIED LINGUISTICS (LANGUAGE/TEACHING SKILLS). THIS WOULD BE A FOUR YEAR COURSE AND WOULD IN EFFECT ABOLISH THE PRESENT ENGLISH DEPARTMENT IN FACULTY OF EDUCATION. CENTER
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SHOULD BE HEADED BY APPLIED LINGUIST (WHICH HELMY IS NOT).

HELMY COULD EITHER BE A MEMBER OF THE FACULTY OF NEW CENTER OR SHIFT TO ARTS FACULTY, ENGLISH DEPARTMENT. NEW CENTER SHOULD HAVE FULL TIME STAFF CONSISTING OF AMERICANS (PROVIDED UNDER DEPT/AM. UNIV. CONTRACT) PLUS QUALIFIED

EGYPTIANS DRAWN FROM OTHER EGYPTIAN UNIVERSITIES TO SERVE FULL TIME FOR STATED NUMBER OF YEARS UNTIL WE AND GOE, THROUGH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS, COULD TRAIN PERMANENT STAFF FOR CENTER. THIS IS A RADICAL ALTERATION OF PRESENT ORGANIZATION AND QUITE POSSIBLE NOT FEASIBLE, ESPECIALLY IN SHORT RUN.

2. CREATE A CENTER THAT WOULD OFFER A ONE ACADEMIC YEAR DIPLOMA COURSE FOR GRADUATES OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENT, FACULTY OF EDUCATION, AS. THIS WOULD LENGTHEN FROM FOUR TO FIVE YEARS THE PRE-SERVICE TRAINING OF ENGLISH TEACHERS. STUDENTS WOULD ATTEND FULL TIME IN YEAR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING GRADUATION AND BEFORE BEGINNING TO TEACH. THIS ALTERNATIVE WOULD NOT PROVIDE FOR REVISION OF PRESENT CURRICULUM IN THE FOUR YEARS OF UNDERGRADUATE WORK PRECEDING ENTRANCE INTO CENTER. IN LONGER TERM, CENTER MIGHT TAKE LEADERSHIP FOR REVISION OF UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM SINCE IT WOULD BE RECEIVING PRODUCT OF THAT CURRICULUM AND WOULD HAVE FIRST HAND KNOWLEDGE ITS INADEQUACIES. STAFFING OF CENTER SHOULD BE ARRANGED FOR AS IN PARA 1 ABOVE. FURTHER, IF SPACE AND STAFF AVAILABLE AT CENTER, IT COULD ENROLL GRADUATES OF THE FACILITIES OF EDUCATION, ENGLISH, FROM OTHER UNIVERSITIES TO TAKE DIPLOMA COURSE BEFORE ENTERING TEACHING CAREER. BEFORE SUCH A CENTER COULD OFFER IN-SERVICE TRAINING (I.E. TRAINING TEACHERS ALREADY IN THE SCHOOL SYSTEM) ITS PROGRAM WOULD HAVE TO BE COORDINATED WITH SHORT TERM IN SERVICE TRAINING ALREADY BEING OFFERED AT NEAR BY AS IN-SERVICE TEACHER TRAINING CENTER UNDER MIN. OF ED.

3. IF FORGOING ALTERNATIVES NOT FEASIBLE, PROBLEM OF PROVIDING NEW LEADERSHIP FOR REORGANIZATION UNDERGRADUATE ENGLISH TEACHER TRAINING MIGHT BE ACCOMPLISHED BY FORMING A "POLICY COMMITTEE" COMPOSED OF TWO OR THREE EGYPTIANS FROM OUTSIDE AS, SUCH AS SOMEONE REPRESENTING DR. ISMAIL OR THE MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION. A PERSON FROM CAIRO
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UNIVERSITY SUCH AS DR. SAAD GAMAL OR DR. FATMA MOUSSA THE AMERICAN TEAM, AND DR. HELMY AS HEAD OF THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT AND PERHAPS HIS COUNTERPART FROM THE CURRICULUM AND METHODOLOGY DEPARTMENT. THIS WOULD SUBMERGE DR. HELMY AND DILUTE HIS POWER OVER THE PROJECT. EFFECTIVENESS OF SUCH A COMMITTEE IN PROVIDING LEADERSHIP AND MAKING POLICY DECISIONS REGARDING REVISION OF CURRICULUM WOULD BE

PRIMARILY DEPENDENT ON THE QUALITY AND OUTLOOK OF
EGYPTIANS APPOINTED TO IT. LEADERSHIP BY COMMITTEE IS
OBVIOUSLY NEVER A FIRST CHOICE, AND SHOULD BE RESORTED TO
ONLY IF REORGANIZATIONS ENVISAGED IN 1 OR 2 ABOVE NOT
FEASIBLE. APPRECIATE EMBASSY/EGYPTIAN REACTION TO ABOVE

IN ORDER TO INCORPORATE YOUR IDEAS INTO ONGOING DISCUSSION
UCLA OR OTHER AM. UNIVERSITIES. ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE059183
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JALDEN:BAM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750093-0336
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750343/aaaabmyg.tel
Line Count: 123
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN CU
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 CAIRO 2374, 75 STATE 38924
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JUL 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <22 DEC 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AIN SHAMS ENGLISH TEACHING PROJECT
TAGS: ASCH, OEXC, AFSP, EG, US, USEGJC
To: CAIRO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006